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GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Part B. for

SUBJECT.

Defining the duties of Mr Ricketts as Inspector General of Police and Forests and plantations and of Director of Agriculture and Statistics.

1. To-- L.Ricketts Esq., Inspector General of Police. The Comptroller. The Deputy Commissioners of Districts and Sub-Divisional Officers. The Superintendent of Forests and Plantations, Mysore. The Assistant Conservators of Forests, Bangalore, Shimoga. No. 5334-48/196 dated 15th December 1885.

Defines the duties of Mr.Ricketts as Inspect General of Police and of Forests and Plantations and o Director of Agriculture and Statistics on a salary of Rs 1,500 per mensem, for the combined offices, with a fixed travelling allowance of Rs 150 per mensem.

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Proceedings of the Dewan to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, (General),—dated 15th December 1885.

No. 5334-48—195, DATED 15TH DECEMBER 1885.

ORDER.—Mr. Ricketts was appointed "Inspector General of Police" by orders contained in Proceedings No. 1265—69, dated 27th October 1885. It is now necessary to consider what other duties may advantageously be assigned to him.

2. The reasons which made it desirable to place the Police under a separate officer apply with equal force to the Forest Department also. This department is of very great importance, and formerly it was presided over by a Conservator of Forests. When, after the late famine, the question of reduction of establishments was under consideration, the Government of India *expressed the opinion that it would be inexpedient to abolish, at any rate immediately, the appointment of Conservator of Forests in Mysore. The Government of India, however, approved of the Forest Department in each District being placed under the immediate control of the Deputy Commissioner, and they remarked that "the plan of placing Forest officers in charge of the Forest in civil Districts, and subordinating them to Deputy Commissioners, promises good results. This, at least, is the experience of the Central Provinces and the Bombay Presidency, wherein it has been adopted with advantage. But to ensure similar success in Mysore, there must be a professional head of the Forest administration, to whom the District Forest officers should be subordinate in all professional and departmental matters. Moreover, if the Forests are placed entirely under Deputy Commissioners, there would be risk of their management in the different Districts being regulated on no systematic plan. It would vary according to the individual views of each officer".

Vide para 7 of letter to Chief Commissioner, Foreign Department, No. 1641, dated 8th August 1878.

3. Subsequently, towards the close of 1878-79, with the permission of the Government of India, the Forest Department as an independent branch of the administration was abolished, and the local Forest officers in each District were placed under the orders of the Deputy Commissioner. And the office of Conservator of Forests being abolished, the late Chief Commissioner directed that, pending the reorganization of the Forest Department, all accounts and periodical returns, &c., should be submitted to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, and that only such references as may be absolutely necessary should be made on important Forest matters. (*Vide* Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 3080—3103, R. F. 454, dated 23rd January 1879.). On the rendition of the Province, the supervision exercised by the Chief Commissioner devolved upon the Dewan.

4. The Dewan is of opinion that it would conduce to the efficiency of the Department to place it under the immediate control of an officer who would be able to pay frequent visits to the Forests, and to devote his personal attention to the operations of the Department and to a proper scrutiny of its accounts of income and expenditure. In the maidan portions of the Province, the reserving and proper working of fuel tracts and the rearing of new plantations of useful trees require such attention to details as cannot be expected from the executive head of the administration.

5. Under such circumstances, His Highness the Maharaja's Government are of opinion that it is desirable to appoint an officer to be styled the "Inspector General of Forests and Plantations". The District administration in Forest matters will, as heretofore, vest in the Deputy Commissioner, aided by the present establishment of Forest officers and servants, but the general control of the Forest administration throughout the Province will vest in the Inspector General of Forests and Plantations, through whom the District officers should submit all matters requiring the orders of Government.

6. The existing arrangements for the collection and scrutiny of statistics—agricultural, vital and economic—also require revision. The report of the Indian Famine Commission lays special stress upon all measures connected with the administration of Famine Relief being placed definitely and permanently under some special branch of the Secretariat of every Government, and it recommends the formation in each Province of a special Agricultural Department, the duties of which in ordinary times

would mainly consist in the collection of facts relating to the condition of the agricu tural community and the agricultural produce of the country.

rate Department of Agriculture, but recent experience has shown that it is absolute necessary to have at the head-quarters an officer of standing and experience wl could "collect and deal with the statistical returns relating to the weather, the agri culture, the health and well being of the people, and thus secure the most promp and accurate knowledge attainable of a probable failure of crops, and of the exter and consequences of any failure that actually takes place." Such an officer may be styled the "Director of Statistics and Agriculture"; and, in ordinary times, he wil in addition to the collection of statistics, devote his attention to the improvement o agriculture and of the breed of cattle; and will exercise a general control over mea sures required for the impvovement and maintenance of tanks and other works o irrigation. He will have charge of all the records of past famines, and will tak note of all that is being usefully done or learnt in neighbouring Provinces. "Whe a famine is thought to be impending," he would supply the Government "with al statistics bearing on the subject and would be responsible for working out fron them the conclusions on which the decision as to future action would mainly rest When a famine is in progress, all the information relating to relief measures, thei extent, their cost, their results" would be collected and presented by him to the Govern ment in a "uniform and intelligent manner".

8. The village servants, Shekdars and Taluk establishments should be utilized to the fullest extent possible in the collection of accurate statistics, agricultural vital and economic,—and the Treasury officer at each District head-quarters should test and compile these statistics for each District. This officer will be sub-ordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of the District, but, as regards the compi-lation and submission of statistics, he will be specially under the orders of the Director of Agriculture and Statistics, who will be the adviser of the Government on all matters relating to agriculture and statistics.

9. His Highness the Maharaja's Government, however, believe that the work above indicated will not, in ordinary times, be sufficient fully to occupy a separate officer, and they accordingly resolve to combine the office of Director of Statistics and Agriculture, with those of the Inspector General of Police and of Forests and Plantations, and to appoint Mr. Ricketts for combined offices.

10. The creation of these offices will not involve any increased expenditure on account of the subordinate establishments required. The present Police office of the Dewan has already been transferred to Mr. Ricketts, and the Forest and Plantation offices will also be similarly transferred. For statistical work, the requi-site number of hands can be transferred from the Dewan's Revenue and Account De-partment, and the Agricultural Inspectors appointed by Proceedings No. 4358-67—90, dated 27th October 1884, together with those to be similarly appointed in the cur-rent year, will be available for work connected with agriculture and plantations in the various Districts.

11. The salary to be allowed to Mr. Ricketts for the combined offices of Inspector General of Police, Inspector General of Forests and Plantations and Di-rector of Statistics and Agriculture is fixed at Rs. 1,500 per mensem, with a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 150 per mensem, with effect from the date on which he assumed charge of the office of Inspector General of Police.

VIJAYINDRA RAO,
Secretary.

The Comptroller.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts and [illegible]
The Superintendent of Forests and Plantations, Mysore.
The Assistant Conservators of Forests, Bangalore, Shimoga.